

of life. What does concern myself and I believe many others is that we do not issue an open invitation and a blank check to each and every person to come forward and attempt to determine what possible benefits they can secure from the State Department of Welfare. I would suggest that many members of this body could qualify for some of the benefits that are enumerated in this notice. Now there will be many divergent points of view relative to this resolution but I would like to suggest that if it takes this kind of a notice to encourage people to come in and get welfare, then why should it require this kind of a notice when we propose a public hearing to debate the rules and regulations which limit the activities of businessmen and industry. This is a normal public notice, one and one-half column inches is what it took in that same newspaper. This public notice required 84 column inches. I frankly do not feel that it is 50 or 60 times more important to advertise what we're giving away than it is to advertise the various rules and regulations by which perhaps we might even seek to limit the activities of the very businesses, the very industries, the very people which provide these benefits. I have, therefore, drafted this resolution and I have asked in the resolution that the Public Health and Welfare Committee investigate to determine if this is in fact necessary. I visited with Mr. Eldin Ehrlich, a man with whom I have complete confidence, who has demonstrated his concern for the unfortunate many times, he has told me that the federal government requires this type of notice. He has told me further that the federal government has required that his agency inaugurate steps by which they must travel across the state.

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator.

SENATOR SCHMIT: That he has had to employ persons or assign persons exclusively for the purpose of informing every last citizen of the state of Nebraska as to their rights under the federal and state welfare rules and regulations. I think we should find out just how much influence the federal government tends to exert upon the state of Nebraska because the state of Nebraska must bear a large part of the cost and I hope that in so doing that we will determine that those needy individuals get the need, the help they need so that those who do not need help do not receive it. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: Senator Shirley Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I think I heard Senator Schmit saying that he was objecting to the size of the ad. He's not really objecting to the size of the ad because we seem to all want the federal dollars which come into our state to help us in the area of welfare and to jeopardize any of those dollars by not complying with the rules which apply to each and every state seems to me to be more shortsighted than I normally see Senator Schmit doing. Yes, after rereading his proposal, he's not really making any action except within the Legislature but he's calling attention to something that seems to smack of saying, we don't want people to know that there are benefits available for them when they legitimately meet the criteria. And to that, I take exception. The help available from the state of Nebraska and from the federal government was designed to be help. We have very few in the state of Nebraska, very few compared to other states who are trying to take advantage as I've heard some of you say. We also have ways to check on persons who do make application.